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Securities and Exchange Commission Division of Corporate Finance Office of International Corporation Finance

450 Fifth Street, NW WASHINGTON DC 20549

USA

17 March 2004

04010876

Dear Ladies and Gentleman

Re:

Ventracor Limited

File # 82-4630

Ventracor Limited (the "Company") is furnishing herewith information pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b)(1)(i) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

The attached documents are being furnished with the understanding that they will not be deemed "filed" with the Securities and Exchange Commission or otherwise subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, and that neither this letter nor the furnishing of such documents shall constitute an admission for any purpose that the Company is subject to the Exchange Act.

If you have any questions or comments please call the undersigned at (61) 02 9406 3100.

Very truly yours

Andrew Geddes

Corporate Communications

K. Callaghan

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#### asx announcement

## VentrAssist™ Pivotal Trial Protocol Agreement

<u>Sydney 17 March 2004:</u> Ventracor Limited (ASX: VCR) today reported that a meeting on Monday with medical investigators from leading hospitals keen to participate in its trial for European approval had reached agreement on a protocol.

Ventracor Chief Executive Officer Dr Colin Sutton said: "We are very pleased to have reached agreement on a protocol all hospitals can use."

"The protocol will allow the greatest number of suitable patients to be recruited in the shortest time despite national differences in medical practice," he said.

"The trial for European approval is due to begin mid-2004. Its aim will be to gather clinical data to support our application for the CE Mark and subsequent permission to sell the VentrAssist™ left ventricular assist system (LVAS) in the major market of Europe," Dr Sutton said.

Several medical investigators from leading hospitals in Australia, New Zealand and Britain are currently considering participation in the European approval trial of the VentrAssist<sup>TM</sup> "artificial heart" device.

A Pilot Trial to establish the safety of the VentrAssist™ at The Alfred hospital in Melbourne is continuing.

For more information, please contact:

Andrew Geddes Manager, Investor Relations Ventracor Limited 02 9406 3100

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### asx announcement

### VentrAssist™ Pilot Trial Progress Report

Sydney 15 March 2004: Following a meeting between Ventracor and The Alfred hospital to review the progress of the trial it was confirmed that the milestone of five patients being implanted with the VentrAssist™ "artificial heart" has been reached and the Pilot Trial is continuing.

An extensive evaluation of the trial results has taken place, including an independent review by The Alfred hospital. Ongoing reviews are part of the agreed clinical protocol.

Three of the five patients have survived for periods in excess of eight months, six months and two months. There have been two deaths. The data indicates the VentrAssist™ system performed to specifications in all patients. However it is not clear whether or not the deaths are entirely unrelated to the implantation or performance of the system.

The company acknowledges the leading role The Alfred continues to play in the development of the VentrAssist™ system.

Ventracor Chief Executive Officer Dr Colin Sutton said: "Following the achievement of the trial milestone, the company plans to commence the Global Pivotal Trial in hospitals in Australia, New Zealand and UK in July this year."

The company has arranged a meeting of the international medical investigators for the Global Pivotal Trial in Sydney on Monday 15 March.

It is very important to remember all patients enrolled in trials are gravely ill. Individual outcomes, although very important do not necessarily reflect on the success of entire trials.

For more information, please contact:

Colin Sutton PhD Ventracor Limited Chief Executive Officer 02 9406 3088 Trisha Lee The Alfred Public Affairs Manager 03 9276 2266